

#2
11000 U.S. PRO
09/870180
05/30/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

KENNETH L. SMITH, GERALD M.
BENSON, MICHELE A. CRATON,
MICHAEL P. DANIELS and ROGER
E. LUEHRS

Serial No.:
Filed:

For: CUBE CORNER CAVITY
BASED RETROREFLECTORS
WITH TRANSPARENT FILL
MATERIAL

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants wish to call to the Examiner's attention the attached references, which generally relate to the present invention.

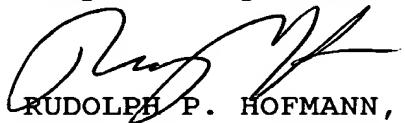
The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following co-pending, co-assigned U.S. Patent applications and the references cited therein: USSN 09/228,367, filed January 11, 1999 (the parent application) and USSN 09/227,963, filed January 11, 1999 (now allowed).

United States Patent Nos. Re. 24,906; 3,684,348; 3,712,706; 4,127,693; 4,181,752; 4,329,384; 4,330,590; 4,656,072; 4,737,559; 5,637,646; WO 89/06811; and WO 95/11464 are referenced in the present application. The remaining documents are generally relevant to the state of the art.

Due to the large volume of references contained in the related parent application, copies of PTO-1449 forms (2 sheets) and PTO-892 forms (2 sheets) showing those references are enclosed for the Examiner, but copies of these references can be found in U.S. Serial No. 09/228,367. If the Examiner wishes the Applicants to provide additional copies of any or all references, the examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at (651) 736-9725.

Applicants submit that the above references, whether taken alone or in combination with each other neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. Consideration of the foregoing in relation to the captioned application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



RUDOLPH P. HOFMANN, JR.
Registration No. 38,187
Attorney for Applicants

RPH:jlh/54538-9B IDS
Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
P.O. Box 33427
St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427
(651) 736-9725
Facsimile: (651) 736-3833

Dated: May 30, 2001